Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Report on the eleventh session (28-30 May 2008)

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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Summary

At its eleventh session, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

The session included a ministerial segment, in which 13 Member States were represented at the ministerial level (Angola, Burkina Faso, Dominican Republic, Iraq, Jordan, Lesotho, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, South Africa, Switzerland and Tunisia). Participants also included the heads of international and regional organizations of the United Nations system or their representatives; representatives of the African Union, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the African Development Bank and the Islamic Development Bank; and representatives of civil society and of business entities such as Alcatel, Cisco Systems, Inc., Intel Corporation, Nokia Siemens Networks, Tunisie Telecom, iBurst South Africa and Tata Consulting Services.

Resource persons included Nina Fedoroff, Science and Technology Adviser to the United States Secretary of State, Mauro Dell'Ambrogio, State Secretary for Education and Research, Switzerland, as well as some of the world's best known speakers in the area of information and communications technology and communication, including Subramanian Ramadorai, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services, and Art Reilly, Senior Director at Cisco Systems.

The substantive discussions of the Commission are reflected in chapters II to V of the present report. Among the issues highlighted were the following:

- Science and technology are essential tools in meeting development goals, especially those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and can contribute to addressing global challenges in such areas as agriculture, health, energy and environment.
- It is important for developing countries to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies and for governments to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach in designing such policies.
- The ability to acquire, adapt, diffuse and adopt existing knowledge is crucial for every country, as is the capacity to produce and use new knowledge and find innovative ways to apply modern science in addressing local development challenges.
- North-South and South-South cooperation is important in harnessing knowledge and technology for development.
- There is need for greater interaction among academic institutions in developing and developed countries, and for innovative policies to turn brain drain into brain gain.
- Attention is drawn to the potential role of information and communications technology, in particular the Internet, to contribute to knowledge-sharing and dissemination and accelerate progress towards the achievement of development goals.

- Information and communications technologies need to be accessible and affordable for low-income populations.
- With the digital divide taking on new dimensions, there is need to ensure affordable access to information and communications technology and digital literacy for the rural poor and other marginalized groups, including women.
- A large number of action lines, such as e-government, e-health, e-business, e-education and e-agriculture, depend on fast and affordable access to information and communications technologies. In this context, broadband technologies deserve special policy attention.
- There should be greater synergy and collaboration among the various entities tasked with the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.
- An enabling environment, human capital development and the role of the civil society, including the private sector, are important in building a truly development-oriented, people-centred and inclusive information society.
- At its twelfth session, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development reaffirmed the central role of science, technology and innovation in both reaching the Millennium Development Goals and creating the capabilities to use existing technologies and create new knowledge, and requested the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to strengthen its work in this area and its support to the Commission.
- The UNCTAD secretariat was encouraged to invite the submission of national reports, on a voluntary basis, and make them available, including on the Commission's website.
- The science, technology and innovation policy (STIP) review of Angola was noted as a useful exercise that represented an important start to the process of mainstreaming science, technology and innovation into the country's national development plan.

In chapter I of the present report, the Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft resolution and four draft decisions.

[11 June 2008]

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society,[1]

Recalling that access to information and sharing and creation of knowledge contributes significantly to strengthening economic, social and cultural development, thus helping all countries to reach the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, considering that this process can be enhanced by removing barriers to universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to information, and underlining the importance of removing barriers to bridging the digital divide, particularly those that hinder the full achievement of the economic, social and cultural development of countries and the welfare of their people, in particular, in developing countries,

Recognizing the efforts by all stakeholders to implement the outcomes of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Recognizing also the efforts of the United Nations agencies and programmes and of all regional commissions in implementing the goals, commitments and recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Recalling its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and the mandate it gave the Commission on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/29 of 27 July 2007,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[2]

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* For the discussion, see chap. III, paras. 50-54.

[1] See A/C.2/59/3, annex, and A/60/687. The outcome documents are also available at http://www.itu.int/WSIS/index.html.

[2] A/63/72-E/2008/48.

Evolving challenges and opportunities

1. *Notes* that the digital divide is changing in some respects and that while in general the divide may be shrinking, a new form of digital divide is emerging in terms of difference in quality and speed of access to information and communications technologies;

2. *Also notes* the continuing relevance of assisting developing countries in their efforts to overcome the digital divide, particularly with regard to both access and capacity;

3. *Further notes* that the disparity in cost and quality of access between developed and developing countries continues and that in developed, high-income economies, the average cost of a broadband connection is significantly less than in developing countries, both in nominal terms and as a percentage of the average monthly income;

4. *Notes* that the gender divide still persists in quality and variety of means of access to the Internet and information and communications technologies in the building of the information society in both developed and developing countries;

5. *Also notes* the strong growth of mobile telephony subscriptions, especially in developing countries;

6. *Notes with concern* the growing number of incidents affecting global network safety and security and provoking service outages in large regions of the world;

7. *Notes* that in many countries there is inadequate coherence and complementarity between national information and communication technology policies and national development and poverty reduction strategies and that, especially in the poorer rural areas, the potential of the Internet and information and communications technologies in general for development has not yet been fully utilized;

8. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to increase efforts for funding of and investment in information and communications technologies, in order to advance broadband access, including wireless access, in areas and countries in which it is still limited or non-existent;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in building the information society, to take steps with a view to avoiding and to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries and that hinders their well-being;

10. *Reaffirms* that the protection of intellectual property is important to encourage innovation and creativity in the information society, that similarly, the wide dissemination, diffusion and sharing of knowledge is important to encourage innovation and creativity, and that facilitating meaningful participation by all in intellectual property issues and knowledge-sharing through full awareness and capacity-building is a fundamental part of an inclusive information society;

11. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to increase their efforts to reduce the disparity in cost of access, through, for example, the establishment of Internet

exchange points and the creation of a competitive environment, both at the backbone network and local levels;

12. *Recommends* all States strive for gender equality in access to the Internet and in building the information society in both developed and developing countries, ensuring the inclusion of the gender approach in information and communications technology policies in national strategies;

13. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to continue the development and spread of easy-to-use applications and services for mobile phones and related devices, especially those that are useful in rural areas and work with low bandwidth and high latency;

14. *Also calls upon* all stakeholders to cooperate more closely in making global networks more stable, resilient and secure and in overcoming outages, incidents and attacks on these networks;

15. *Calls upon* international and regional organizations to assess and report on a regular basis on the universal accessibility of nations to information and communications technologies, with the aim of creating equitable opportunities for the growth of the Information and Communications Technology sectors of developing countries;

16. *Recommends* the mainstreaming of Information and Communications Technology policies into national development or poverty reduction strategies, in accordance with the priorities of countries;

17. *Also recommends* increased international cooperation at all levels and among all stakeholders to help rural areas to access and benefit from the Internet and information and communications technologies in general;

Successes and shortcomings to date in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ongoing work of the Internet Governance Forum, its multi-stakeholder approach and its innovative platform and expresses its thanks to host Governments for their contributions;

19. *Acknowledges* the progress made towards developing multilingual capabilities on the Internet;

20. *Also acknowledges* the work of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technologies for Development to develop indicators for further consideration and decision by the Statistical Commission;

21. *Notes* the lack of indicators to measure progress made towards achieving the targets, as set out in part B of the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December,[3] and endorsed by the General Assembly;[4]

22. *Takes note* of the efforts of the regional commissions in the coordination of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information

[3] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.
[4] See resolution 59/220.

Society, including in developing e-strategies, capacity-building and measuring of information and communications technologies;

23. *Acknowledges* the efforts of all action line facilitators, especially the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in their role as lead facilitators;

24. *Notes* that the architecture for the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, as defined in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,[5] is rather complex and has also presented limitations in involving the participation of all stakeholders, in particular those from developing countries;

25. *Takes note* of the letter from the Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed to relevant organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet requesting them to report on the steps they have taken towards enhanced cooperation in accordance with paragraph 71 of the Tunis Agenda and looks forward to the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General, which may contain recommendations on how the process should be pursued, and notes that all stakeholders, in their respective roles, will be included in this process;

26. *Reaffirms* the relevance of decisions on Internet governance in their entirety, as outlined in the Tunis Agenda;

27. *Recommends* that the Internet Governance Forum, as a multi-stakeholder discussion forum, retain its focus on public policy issues related to Internet governance;

28. *Encourages* collaboration among all stakeholders, including international organizations, consistent with their mandate and existing budgetary resources, in regard to the multilingualization of the Internet;

29. *Recommends* that the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development consider the creation of benchmarks and indicators, including impact indicators, for further consideration and decision by the Statistical Commission, in order to track progress towards the attainment of the specific goals and targets set out in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, particularly part B of the Plan of Action adopted in Geneva;

30. *Also recommends* that action line facilitators, in cooperation with all stakeholders, establish milestones, deadlines and calendars for their action lines, taking into account the outcome documents of the Summit;

31. *Further recommends* that lead facilitators conduct open-ended multi-stakeholder consultations with a view to improving the effectiveness and coherence of the annual clustering of activities related to the World Summit on the Information Society;

32. *Recommends* that the United Nations Group on the Information Society organize focused, open-ended multi-stakeholder consultations on the implementation of paragraphs 3 to 28 of the Tunis Agenda, on financial mechanisms

[5] See A/60/687, chap. I, sect. B.

for meeting the challenges of information and communications technologies for development;

33. *Also recommends* the introduction in the facilitation process of electronic collaboration tools such as mailing lists, web 2.0 applications, observatories and clearing house models in order to enhance multi-stakeholder participation, in particular from developing countries;

34. *Further recommends* that in submitting their reports to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development secretariat in accordance with Council resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007, action line facilitators bring to the attention of the Commission obstacles and difficulties encountered by all stakeholders in regard to the commitments and recommendations pertaining to their respective action line at the regional and international levels and make proposals for possible action to the Commission, whenever deemed necessary;

35. *Invites* all actors and institutions involved in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society to clarify further their respective roles, improve coordination and information-sharing and build synergies to make the most effective use of available resources;

36. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to support the review and assessment work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in regard to the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society;

37. *Recommends* that all stakeholders redouble their efforts to implement the vision of the World Summit on the Information Society of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society, so as to enhance digital opportunities for all people and help bridge the digital divide.

B. Draft decisions for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions*

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 and decision 2007/215 of 26 April 2007 and recognizing the need for maximizing the meaningful participation of and contributions by civil society and business entities in the work of the Commission:

(a) Decides, on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, to extend to non-governmental organizations and civil society entities

* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 8-12.

which are not in consultative status with the Council but which received accreditation to the World Summit on the Information Society an invitation to participate in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions;

(b) Urges voluntary contributions in order to provide the maximum possible assistance for the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities of developing countries and to ensure their balanced representation, including in the panels of the Commission;

(c) Invites the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to consider as expeditiously as possible the applications of such entities, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Draft decision II
Participation of academic entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development*

The Economic and Social Council, recalling paragraphs 14 to 16 of its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, entitled "Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development", recognizing that academic entities that were accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society under the category of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities cannot obtain consultative status with the Council in accordance with its resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 and that their participation in the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in accordance with Council decision 2007/215 of 2 April 2007 is therefore limited to the tenth and eleventh sessions of the Commission, and recognizing also that these academic entities are important stakeholders in the information society and make an important contribution to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the World Summit on the Information Society and its follow-up:

(a) Decides, on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to existing rules of procedure that academic entities accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society may participate in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Requests the secretariat of the Commission to submit to the Council for its consideration and approval in a timely manner the names of academic entities, including academies of science and engineering, which were not accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society and which have expressed or express the wish to participate in the work of the Commission, with a view to enabling them to participate, on an exceptional basis, in the work of the Commission in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council;

(c) Emphasizes that the present decision is taken on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of procedure of the Council, in particular the provisions of Council resolution 1996/31 concerning the accreditation and participation of non-governmental organizations and other major groups in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies and that it should not be construed as creating a precedent;

* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras 13-16.

(d) Decides to review in 2010 the list of academic entities and the modalities for their participation in the work of the Commission.

Draft decision III
Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation to be submitted to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session*

The Economic and Social Council requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session on the science, technology and innovation priority themes addressed during the current biennium.

Draft decision IV
Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission**

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session;[6]

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission as set out below.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General
3. Priority themes:

   (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment;

* For the discussion, see chap. III, paras. 55-56.

** For the discussion, see chap. VI, paras. 88-90.

[6] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 11* (E/2008/31).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(c) Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovative policy reviews.

4. Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken by the Commission at its eleventh session.

5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the thirteenth session of the Commission.

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twelfth session.

C. Decision brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following decision adopted by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development is brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Documents considered by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its eleventh session*

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and enabling environment;[7]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research.[8]

* For discussion, see chap. IV, para. 71.

[7] E/CN.16/2008/3.

[8] E/CN.16/2008/4.

Chapter II
Organizational matters

Gender and science and technology dimensions of violence against women

4. At its 9th meeting, on 30 May 2008, the attention of the Commission was drawn to paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 61/143.

5. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Gender Advisory Board, UNCTAD.

6. The Commission recognized that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, were important to women's health and well-being and in addressing and mitigating various forms of violence against women. To that end, the Commission agreed that it would monitor, document and raise awareness of the use of science and technology and information and communications technologies to perpetrate violence against women, and document and disseminate information on how science and technology could be used to avoid, address and mitigate violence against women.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Commission agreed to transmit the text read out and distributed by the representative of the Gender Advisory Board to the Secretary-General in connection with his annual report to the General Assembly.

Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions

8. At its 9th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission had before it a draft decision, entitled "Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session", submitted by El Salvador on the basis of informal consultations and circulated in an informal paper.

9. At the same meeting, the representative of El Salvador reported on the outcome of informal consultations held on the draft decision.

10. Following statements by the representatives of Iran (Islamic Republic of), Chile, the Philippines, the United States of America, Brazil, the Russian Federation, France, Mexico and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Commission postponed consideration of the draft decision.

11. At its 10th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission had before it a revised draft decision, entitled "Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session", submitted by the Chairman as a result of informal consultations held on the draft decision submitted by El Salvador, which was circulated in English only.

12. The Commission agreed to recommend the revised draft decision, as orally revised during the discussion, to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I).

Participation of academic entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

13. At its 9th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission had before it a draft decision, entitled "Participation of academic institutions and entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development", submitted by El Salvador and circulated in an informal paper in English only.

14. Following a statement by the representative of El Salvador, the Commission postponed consideration of the draft decision.

15. At its 10th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission had before it a revised draft decision, entitled "Participation of academic entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development", submitted by the Chairman as a result of informal consultations held on the draft decision submitted by El Salvador, which was circulated in English only.

16. At the same meeting, the Commission agreed to recommend the draft decision to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II).

Chapter III
Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels

17. The Commission considered item 2 of its agenda at its 1st to 4th, 8th and 9th meetings, on 26, 27, 29 and 30 May. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels (A/63/72-E/2008/48);

(b) Summary report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on the meeting of the intersessional panel of the Commission, held in Kuala Lumpur from 28 to 30 November 2007 (E/CN.16/2008/CRP.1).

18. At its 1st meeting, on 26 May, the Commission held a discussion at the ministerial level (see chap. IX, sect. A).

Regional presentations

19. At its 2nd meeting, on 26 May, the Commission heard a presentation by its Vice-Chairman, Janis Karklins (Latvia), former President of the Preparatory Committee for the second (Tunis) phase of the World Summit on the Information Society.

20. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), and by the representatives of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

21. Also at the same meeting, a presentation was made by the representative of the European Commission.

Dialogue on regional experiences

22. At the 2nd meeting, on 26 May, the Commission held a dialogue on regional experiences in the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society, which was moderated by the Executive Secretary of ECE, Marek Belka.

23. The following panellists made presentations and engaged in a dialogue with the representative of the Dominican Republic: Miguel Angel Alcaine Castro, Deputy Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations Office at Geneva; Anwar Battikhi, Secretary-General of the Higher Council for Science and Technology, Jordan, Tariq Ur-Rahman, Chairman, Pakistan Council for Science and Technology; and Joachim Tankoano, Minister for Information and Communication Technology, Burkina Faso.

24. The representatives of Tata Consultancy Services, the Canadian Executive Service Organization and Webforce International also took part in the dialogue.

25. At the 3rd meeting, on 27 May, the Commission held two special multi-stakeholder panel discussions: panel I, on the topic entitled "Broadband: the new frontier of the digital divide?"; and panel II, on the topic entitled "Cybersecurity". Statements were made by Maximus Ongkili (Malaysia), Chairman of the Commission, Houlin Zhao, Deputy Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and Sarbuland Khan, Executive Coordinator of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID).

Panel I. Broadband: the new frontier of the digital divide?

26. The Special Envoy for the Information Society, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, France, Bertrand de la Chapelle, acted as moderator of the panel discussion.

27. The following panellists made presentations: Anriette Esterhuysen, Executive Director, Association for Progressive Communications; Thierry Albrand, Vice-President, Digital Bridges, Alcatel; Art Reilly, Senior Director, Cisco Systems; Christoph Legutko, Wireless Standards and Regulations Manager, Intel Corporation; Alan Knott-Craig, Managing Director, iBurst, South Africa; Ahmed Mahjoub, Chief Executive Officer, Tunisie Telecom, Tunisia; and Yuri Grin, Deputy Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU.

28. Participants argued that broadband was not a luxury but essential and critical infrastructure. There was wide agreement that adequate broadband access was crucial for a large number of the action lines established by the World Summit on the Information Society, such as e-government, e-health, e-business, e-education and e-agriculture. For example, e-interactive teaching sessions would not be possible with low bitrate systems; similarly, adequate broadband access was important for facilitating business activities and providing a competitive business environment. Broadband therefore held tremendous promise for social and economic inclusion.

29. A number of suggestions aimed at reducing broadband access and costs were discussed. They included avoiding single service providers and monopolies; joint negotiation on installation of access by several Internet service providers to gain a bargaining position; use of Internet exchange points and mirror servers; and use of existing networks, such as power lines or sewerage pipes, to install cables.

Panel II. Cybersecurity

30. The Head of the Corporate Strategy Division of ITU, Alexander Ntoko, made a statement and acted as moderator of the panel discussion.

31. The following panellists made presentations and engaged in a dialogue with the delegation of Austria: Hamadoun I. Toure, Secretary-General of ITU; Joachim Tankoano, Minister of Posts and Information and Communication Technologies, Burkina Faso; Solange Ghernaouti-Hélie, Professor, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Lausanne; Alain Modoux, former Assistant Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Member of the Board, ICT4Peace; and Graham Butler, President and Chief Executive Officer, BITEK International Inc.

32. Participants focused on a number of issues related to cybersecurity: (a) producing secure and transparent controlling products; (b) development of reliable and safe behaviour in regard to the use of information and communications technology; (c) development of a trusted and reliable digital identity management system; (d) privacy issues and human rights; and (e) consumer protection.

33. Several participants noted that there was a need to develop a culture of cybersecurity. It was pointed out that humans were the weakest link of the security chain. Also, if some countries were to become the weakest link of the international security chain, it would impact upon the global level of cybersecurity. The need to strike a balance between the security and privacy of individuals and businesses was highlighted. Panellists observed that cybersecurity was a continuous and ongoing effort which required sharing of experience. Criminals operating in cyberspace were often organized; the international community should also be organized in ensuring cybersecurity.

34. Several participants noted that the ability to regulate, intercept and control VoIP technology was a key weapon against modern threats. Operators, regulators and security organizations needed appropriate tools to address VoIP-based communications issues, such as national security (P2P), lawful intercept, grey traffic bypass, illegal websites (URL blocking), IP VPNs and Encryption. Encrypted P2P was increasingly recognized as a threat to national security, and had been banned by major corporations to protect information and prevent illegal data transmission.

35. A number of proposals for country policy options in combating weaknesses in cybersecurity were recommended, namely: (a) development of an effective legal framework that was enforceable at the national level and compatible at the international level; (b) promotion of the adoption of and support for technical and procedural cybersecurity measures; (c) putting in place organizational structures; (d) provision of support for initiatives aimed at building capacity; and (e) provision of support for national, regional and international cooperation. Participants expressed their support for the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda as the framework for international cooperation towards meeting the goals of action line C5, on building confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies.

36. At its 4th meeting, on 27 May, the Commission heard an introductory statement by the Chief of the Science and Technology Section of UNCTAD.

37. At the same meeting, the Commission began its general discussion and heard statements by the representatives of Pakistan, Chile, Tunisia, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Argentina, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Brazil, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Rwanda and Switzerland.

38. At the same meeting, the representatives of the African Union and the Inter-Parliamentary Union made statements.

39. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the International Chamber of Commerce, Webforce International Federation, the Association for Progressive Communications, Ecole nationale supérieure de techniques avancées and the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative relationship with the United Nations (CONGO).

40. Participants emphasized that building an inclusive information society required a cooperative and multi-stakeholder approach that included government, business and civil society at all levels. At the national level, e-government initiatives could benefit from a multi-stakeholder approach, especially those that improved the interoperability of governmental services, enhanced security through the use of electronic and digital signatures, and improved the development and deployment of information and communications technology standards. Information and communications technologies also improved the efficiency of parliamentary and representative government bodies.

41. Participants commended the Internet Governance Form as a good practice example in implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and suggested that more interaction should be established between the Forum and the Commission. Participants welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Summit and suggested that future reports should strike a balance between the progress made and the obstacles and constraints encountered. Some participants noted with concern that the current interim arrangement for the participation of Summit-accredited non-governmental organizations would expire by the end of 2008, and suggested that ways and means be explored to ensure the participation of those non-governmental organizations, as well as academic institutions, in order to maximize the meaningful participation of civil society and business entities in the work of the Commission and benefit fully from their contributions. Participants also noted the need to reorganize the action lines into thematic clusters.

42. Participants noted that information and communications technologies were powerful enablers of development, but not an end in themselves. They observed that, in measuring the development of such technologies, there was a need to move beyond indicators of connectivity and include social indicators on content, use and creation, as well as access to knowledge. Participants welcomed the progress made in regard to th Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development. They encouraged the Partnership to expand its indicators and measure the impact of information and communications technology in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. It was noted that, owing to the unavailability of data, that would be a challenging task. Participants pointed to the usefulness of the *World Information Society Report 2007*, a joint publication of UNCTAD and ITU which tracked progress made in the development of the information society and bridging the digital divide, and called for its continuation.

43. With regard to the follow-up process, a number of participants noted the need for increased cooperation among the various agencies. They welcomed the proposal by ITU, UNESCO and other action line facilitators to shorten the duration of the annual cluster of Summit-related events to one week, with a view to building synergies, avoiding duplication and maximizing participation and cooperation.

44. There was agreement that while the digital divide was narrowing in terms of access to basic information and communications technologies, in particular mobile telephony, the gap in other respects, in particular broadband, remained a serious concern. Several speakers pointed out that the digital divide remained a major problem for developing countries. Significant differences existed among countries, within and among regions and between developed and developing countries. There were also large inequalities among social groups. The poor, the rural population,

women and persons with disabilities were strongly disadvantaged in terms of access. The high cost of Internet access was identified as a major problem in many developing countries. Several constraints to Internet access in those countries were identified, including demand-side constraints, such as low income, the high cost of information technology equipment and low e-literacy, and supply-side constraints, such as lack of access to finance, insufficient investment in information and communications technology infrastructure and monopolies in the information and communications technology industries in some countries. Several speakers stated that the high access cost in mobile telephony in some developing countries was caused by inadequate liberalization in telecom markets and continued monopolies.

45. Participants observed that political stability was fundamental for the development of the information society. A combination of supporting policies aimed at creating competitive market conditions for fixed broadband and mobile networks, human capacity-building and content creation, as well as a progressive environment of intellectual property rights that encouraged both Internet protocol compliance in the use of proprietary technologies and free and open source technologies, was needed. However, while market-based solutions provided benefits for medium-income and urban populations, they often neglected the poor and other disadvantaged groups. Thus, additional measures were required to address their needs.

46. In that regard, multi-stakeholder partnerships and a bottom-up approach were considered of crucial importance.

Presentations by action line facilitators and representatives of other themes of the World Summit on the Information Society

47. At the 8th meeting, on 29 May, the Deputy Secretary-General of ITU reported on action line facilitation by the organization.

48. The following action line facilitators made statements: Internet Governance Forum, UNCTAD, UNESCO, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and the World Health Organization (WHO).

49. A statement was made by the representative of France.

Action taken by the Commission

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

50. At the 2nd meeting, on 27 May, the Vice-Chairman made a statement in which he brought to the attention of the Commission a draft resolution on the assessment of the progress made in regard to the World Summit on the Information Society, which was circulated in English only.

51. At its 9th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission had before it a revised text of the draft resolution, submitted by the Vice-Chairman on the basis of informal consultations and available in English only.

52. The Vice-Chairman reported on the outcome of informal consultations held on the draft text.

53. The Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

54. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of Sri Lanka, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A).

Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation to be submitted to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session

55. At the 9th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission had before it a draft decision submitted by Chile, entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation to be submitted to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session", which was circulated in English only.

56. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of the Dominican Republic, the Commission agreed to recommend the draft decision to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision III).

Chapter IV

Priority themes:

(a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment

(b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research

57. The Commission considered item 3 (a) and (b) of its agenda at its 1st and 5th to 7th meetings, on 26, 28 and 29 May. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment (E/CN.16/2008/3);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research (E/CN.16/2008/4);

(c) Summary report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on the meeting of the intersessional panel of the Commission, held in Kuala Lumpur from 28 to 30 November 2007 (E/CN.16/2008/CRP.1).

58. At its 1st meeting, on 26 May, the Commission held a discussion at the ministerial level (see chap. IX, sect. A).

59. At its 5th meeting, on 28 May, an introductory statement under agenda item 3 (a) was made by the representative of UNCTAD.

60. At the same meeting, a presentation was made by the Executive Director of IT for Change, Bangalore, India, Parminder Jeet Singh.

61. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Iraq, India, Cuba, France, South Africa, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Chile, the United States, Lesotho and Jamaica, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Burkina Faso and the Dominican Republic.

62. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Association for Progressive Communications and the International Chamber of Commerce.

63. Also at the same meeting, the representative of UNCTAD made a statement.

64. At its 6th meeting, on 28 May, an introductory statement under agenda item 3 (b) was made by the representative of UNCTAD.

65. At the same meeting, a presentation was made by Ilkka Lakaniemi, of Nokia Siemens Networks.

66. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan, Pakistan, Chile, Austria, Sri Lanka, the United States of America, the Philippines, South Africa, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the United Kingdom, Lesotho, the Russian Federation, Malaysia, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Rwanda.

67. A statement was made by the representative of the Gender Advisory Board, UNCTAD.

68. At the same meeting, statements were made by representatives of Ecole nationale supérieure de techniques avancées and Taking IT Global.

69. During the discussion, the development of human capital was widely noted as a central pillar to building capabilities in science, technology and innovation. Collaboration among universities and among researchers was identified as having great benefit for researchers, professors and students. Seminars that brought together those groups could also be beneficial, organized for example, on a subregional or regional basis, with extraregional participation on a specific topic. Likewise, collaboration between universities and industry could be beneficial, particularly in promoting the commercialization of research outputs.

70. Many participants noted the important role of capabilities in science, technology and innovation, including engineering capabilities, in promoting sustainable development and for avoiding economic stagnation. It was stressed that the economic growth of countries depended to a large extent on the development of those capabilities.

71. At its 10th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission, on the proposal of the Chairman, took note of the reports of the Secretary-General submitted under agenda item 3 (see chap. I, sect. C, decision).

Presentation of the science, technology and innovation policy review of Angola

72. At the 7th meeting, on 29 May, the Commission considered the science, technology and innovation policy review (STIP review) of Angola, and heard a statement by the Chairman.

73. At the same meeting, the Deputy Prime Minister of Angola made a statement.

74. Also at the same meeting, the representative of UNCTAD made a statement, during which he introduced the UNCTAD report on the STIP review of Angola.

75. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, Nigeria and Portugal.

76. Statements were made by the representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ITU and UNESCO.

77. A statement was also made by the representative of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development.

78. Comments and remarks were made by the representatives of China, Lesotho, South Africa, the Sudan, Austria, Slovakia and Angola.

79. A statement was made by the representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

80. The Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD made concluding remarks.

81. It was noted that the purpose of STIP reviews was to assess capabilities in science, technology and innovation and the functionality of national systems of innovation, with a view to identifying areas of strength and weakness, and to assess their adequacy in meeting the priority needs of the country in terms of economic goals, such as competitiveness and diversification, and social and environmental

challenges. Such reviews were also aimed at providing policy advice in the form of suggestions on how to improve capabilities and create strong and functional national systems of innovation. The review had concluded that while there was great promise for using science, technology and innovation as a component of a successful development strategy in Angola, there remained serious challenges in that regard, in particular in respect of policy in education and training, research and development capacity, financing, and policy formulation. Infrastructure development was a key obstacle being actively addressed through widespread reconstruction efforts. The Government of Angola had expressed its interest in using science, technology and innovation as a pillar of its economic development plan, and its intention to use the review as a basis for discussion at the national level to design a national strategy for in science, technology and innovation.

82. In discussing the review, many participants noted that it had been a useful exercise that represented an important start to the process of mainstreaming science, technology and innovation into Angola's national development plan. Several speakers noted that STIP reviews presented an important opportunity for the sharing of experience and learning among developing country policymakers, which could contribute to an improved understanding of good or best practice in science, technology and innovation policies. Some expressed the hope that it would help build international support in that respect, and facilitate increased international collaboration in regard to science, technology and innovation, including the sharing of knowledge, as well as other aspects of international collaboration, such as South-South and North-South cooperation.

83. Some participants noted that the UNCTAD review had brought to bear research and analysis, technical cooperation and intergovernmental dialogue — the pillars of its work. Research and analysis fed into the technical cooperation process and was enriched by intergovernmental dialogue. The outcome document of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Accra Accord, called on UNCTAD to carry out STIP reviews for developing countries. It was pointed out that, in most developing countries, science, technology and innovation had been a missing or marginal component of development strategies but should occupy a more central place. Participants stressed the importance of developing a sound national innovation system.

84. Others noted that science, technology and innovation policy needed to be turned into a virtuous circle, contributing to physical and social infrastructure, particularly in the educational sector, and to such productive sectors as agriculture, manufacturing and services. Human resource and entrepreneurial development was critical for fostering science, technology and innovation policy. Participants noted the need for coherence between such policies and other national policies. International cooperation was also highlighted, especially in relation to education and training and the transfer of technology.

Chapter V

Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the tenth session of the Commission

85. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 8th meeting, on 29 May.

86. At the same meeting, the Commission heard an introductory statement by the representative of UNCTAD, who also responded to questions raised by the representatives of France, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan.

Chapter VI

Election of the Chair and other officers for the twelfth session of the Commission

87. At its 10th meeting, on 30 May, the Commission considered item 5 of its agenda and elected by acclamation the following officers for its twelfth session:

Chairman:

Juan Eduardo Eguiguren (Chile)

Vice-Chairmen:

Yrjö Länsipuro (Finland)
Štefan Morávek (Slovakia)
Maximus J. Ongkili (Malaysia)
El Tayeb Idris Eisa (Sudan)

Chapter VII

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission

88. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 10th meeting, on 30 May. It had before it an informal paper containing the draft provisional agenda for its twelfth session.

89. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines, the Sudan, the United States of America, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Brazil and Finland, as well as by the observer for Thailand.

90. Also at the same meeting, following a clarification by the representative of UNCTAD, the Commission approved a draft decision on the provisional agenda and documentation for its twelfth session, and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision IV).

Chapter VIII

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eleventh session

91. At the 10th meeting, on 30 May, the Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur of the Commission introduced the draft report of the Commission on its eleventh session (E/CN.16/2008/L.1).

92. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report on its eleventh session and entrusted the Rapporteur with its completion.

Chapter IX
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

93. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development held its eleventh session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 26 to 30 May 2008. The Commission held 10 meetings (1st to 10th).

94. The session was opened by the temporary Chairman, Mothetjoa Metsing (Lesotho), Vice-Chairman of the Commission, who also made an opening statement.

95. At the 1st meeting, on 26 May, the Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD addressed the Commission.

96. At the same meeting, the following speakers addressed the Commission: Hamadoun Touré, Secretary-General of ITU; Mauro Dell'Ambrogio, State Secretary for Education and Research, Switzerland; Nina Federoff, Science and Technology Adviser to the United States Secretary of State; Subramanian Ramadorai, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Tata Consultancy Services, and Chair of the BASIS Initiative of the International Chamber of Commerce; Zeinab El Bakri, Vice-President of the African Development Bank; and Parminder Jeet Singh, Executive Director of IT for Change, Bangalore, India.

Ministerial segment

97. Also at the same meeting, the Commission held a panel discussion on science, technology and innovation, and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society, moderated by Art Reilly, Senior Director of CISCO Systems, who also made a statement.

98. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following: Raid Fahmi, Minister of Science and Technology, Iraq; Ligia Amada Melo, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Dominican Republic; Maximus J. Ongkili, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia; El Hadj Gley, Minister of Communication Technologies, Tunisia; Tariq Ur-Rahman, Chairman, Council for Science and Technology, Pakistan; Mothetjoa Metsing, Minister of Communications, Science and Technology, Lesotho; Joachim Tankoano, Minister of Posts and Information and Communication Technologies, Burkina Faso; Pedro Sebastiao Teta, Vice Minister of Science and Technology, Angola; Derek Hanekom, Deputy Minister of Science and Technology, South Africa; Fortunato Dela Pena, Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Philippines; Anway Battikhi, Secretary-General, Higher Council for Science and Technology, Jordan.

99. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement.

100. Participants reiterated that science and technology were vital tools in meeting development goals, especially those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration. The application of science and technology, for example, could contribute to addressing global challenges in such areas as agriculture, health, energy and environment. It was thus important for developing countries to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies, especially those related to poverty reduction. Participants underscored the

importance for governments to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach in designing such policies.

101. Participants pointed out that the ability to acquire, adapt, diffuse and adopt existing knowledge was crucial for every country, regardless of its level of development. Equally important was the capacity to produce and use new knowledge, and to find innovative ways to apply modern science in addressing local development challenges. In that context, they stressed the importance of human capital development, technology transfer, technical cooperation and collaborative arrangements of various kinds, strengthening of national systems of innovation, and intellectual property rights. The role of education, especially higher education and in technical subjects including science, engineering and mathematics, was underscored. Also highlighted was North-South and South-South cooperation in harnessing knowledge and technology for development. Participants called for greater interaction among academic institutions in developing and developed countries. They also gave examples of how brain drain could be turned into brain gain through innovative policies that tapped into the talent of expatriate communities and maximized the opportunities provided by the globalization of the workforce.

102. Several participants emphasized the potential role of information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet, to contribute to knowledge-sharing and dissemination, and accelerating progress towards the achievement of development goals. Despite progress in some areas, most notably in mobile telephony, the impact of information and communications technologies on poverty alleviation was yet to become significant and important. To realize its full potential, such technology needed to be accessible to and affordable for low-income populations.

103. Participants pointed out that many of the e-applications, such as e-learning, e-health or e-business, depended on fast and affordable access to information and communications technologies. In that context, broadband technologies deserved special policy attention. Participants encouraged Governments to put in place policies that enabled the competitive provision of broadband services. They noted with concern that the digital divide was taking on new dimensions, and stressed the need to ensure affordable access to information and communications technology and digital literacy for the rural poor and other marginalized groups, including women. While market-based solutions often worked well, there was a need to develop alternative access models for regions in the absence of a commercially viable demand. Regional and private-public partnership projects were cited as particularly important for building high-capacity fibre-optic communications backbones and interconnections.

104. On the issue of follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society, participants called for greater synergy and collaboration among the various entities tasked with implementation and follow-up. There was also concern that while a lot of attention had been accorded to the issue of connectivity, other important issues, such as local content, might have been overlooked. Participants underscored the importance of an enabling environment, human capital development and the role of the civil society, including the private sector, in building a truly development-oriented, people-centred and inclusive information society.

105. Participants were briefed on the outcome of the recent twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at which the Conference had reaffirmed the central role of science, technology and innovation in both reaching the Millennium Development Goals and creating the capabilities to use existing technologies and create new knowledge. It had also requested UNCTAD to strengthen its work in the area of science, technology and innovation, and its support to the Commission.

106. Participants welcomed the sharing of national experiences during the ministerial segment. It was suggested that the secretariat of the Commission invite the submission of national reports, on a voluntary basis, and make them available, including on the Commission's website. It was also suggested that a template be developed to invite not only examples of good practice, but of lessons learned.

107. The Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD made concluding remarks.

B. Attendance

108. The session was attended by representatives of 37 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as representatives of civil society and business entities also attended. The list of participants for the session is contained in document E/CN.16/2008/INF.1.

C. Election of officers

109. At the 9th meeting of its tenth session, on 25 May 2007, the Commission had elected the following members of the Bureau of its eleventh session by acclamation:

Chairman:

Dato' Sri Jamaluddin Jarjis (Malaysia)

Vice-Chairmen:

Juan Eduardo Eguiguren (Chile)
Janis Karklins (Latvia)
Mothetjoa Metsing (Lesotho)
Bernd Michael Rode (Austria)

110. At the 2nd meeting of its eleventh session, on 26 May 2008, the Commission elected Maximus J. Ongkili, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation of Malaysia, as Chairman of the session to replace Dato' Sri Jamaluddin Jarjis (Malaysia) who was not in a position to serve as Chairman.

111. At the same meeting, the Commission also elected Luciano Parodi (Chile) to replace Juan Eduardo Eguiguren (Chile) who was unable to carry out his duties as Vice-Chairman of the eleventh session.

112. At its 3rd meeting, on 27 May, the Commission agreed that its Vice-Chairman, Mothetjoa Metsing (Lesotho), should also assume the responsibilities of Rapporteur for its eleventh session.

D. Agenda and organization of work

113. At its 1st meeting, on 26 May, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda and approved its organization of work, as contained in document E/CN.16/2008/1 and Corr.1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels.
3. Priority themes:
   (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment;
   (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research.
4. Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the tenth session of the Commission.
5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twelfth session of the Commission.
6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission at its eleventh session.

Annex

List of documents before the Commission at its eleventh session

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
A/63/72-E/2008/48	2	Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels
E/CN.16/2008/1 and Corr.1	1	Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work
E/CN.16/2008/3	2	Report of the Secretary-General on development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and enabling environment
E/CN.16/2008/4	3	Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research
E/CN.16/2008/L.1	7	Draft report of the Commission on its eleventh session
E/CN.16/2008/CRP.1[a]	2 and 3	Summary report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on the meeting of the intersessional panel of the Commission, held in Kuala Lumpur from 28 to 30 November 2007
Background paper[b]	2	Follow-up report on the World Summit on the Information Society: note by the UNCTAD secretariat

[a] Available at http://www.unctad.org/cstd.
[b] Available at http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/none20081_en.pdf.

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